(Begin Belt #7)

gives more than the leaders of the employees had been willing to agree to. And I think we ought to try this for a year and then if this doesn't work, we can do something else. So in due respect to Senator Keyes, I think we ought to, when this comes up in the appropriations bill, accept the recommendations. They're higher than the Governor recommended. Give it a chance and then let's watch it during this year and let's insist that every employee get this increase and nobody plays with mickey mouse with us as they have in the past. And if necessary, we put the heat on the administrators to see that every employee gets this increase. We've got to build a fire under them. And so I respectfully request that Senator Keyes motion be held up. That bill stay in the Retirement Committee until we see whether or not the Legislature accepts these recommendations. If they do then we don't need this bill during this session.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well, I'd like to discuss it in a short period of time. As I understand it, the question is whether it's better to write into the law as Senator Keyes apparently would desire and let these things be activated each year depending upon the cost of living as set forth by the federal government of the various agencies they have in control. Whether this Body each year should go through the same discussion and the same consideration to do it ourselves. In the field of social security, as I recall, I think I'm right, the federal government has built into the social security an automatic increase depending upon the cost of living. And by the same token if it goes down, a reduction. Now, I don't want to get into crosswise either with Senator Marvel or Senator Keyes, but it just seems to me that Senator Keyes' bill has some merit. And I don't know why this Body should go through this procedure every year in order to bring about an adjustment which could and I think should be automatic. Now, the thing that's wrong is that people a lot of And the State of Nebraska has never been very famous for living up to the obligations it has in order to pay the employees what is comparable to other areas of the same type of work if he can make a comparison. But it just seemed to me for this Body to go through this hassle every year may not be the right thing for us to do. Now I will not be here next year at least in this seat any way. At least where I hope to be, I'll probably not have any influence in what the Body does but it won't be because I might not make an effort to have it. But I think this is well worth discussing. a few minutes so we'll understand what we're doing and I would think that probably the only way these employees each year are going to get an equalizing factor in the area of the cost of living, this Body has to do it. The Executive branch cannot do it for themselves. They can do it in the area of the responsibility of those who are head of the code departments and that's about what it is. Obviously this session Senator Marvel and those who participated in this session did an excellent job. I'm not complaining about that. And I think they did the right thing and they had, of course, compromised to bring about a realistic understanding of the problem. as I understand it, it's going to cost taxpayers of the state about five million dollars in order to do it. Everybody realizes that inflation at least in my judgment is only starting, not ended. The price in farm product has not yet begun to be reflected in the area of the consumer. And I know